

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS MONROVIA 4205

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH, TH, HK, LI

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN/CHINESE RELATIONS

THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL REGARDING LIBERIAN/CHINESE
RELATIONS APPEARED IN THE JUNE 6, 1978 EDITION OF THE
LIBERIAN AGE, ORGAN OF THE RULING TRUE WHIG PARTY:

QUOTE:

GROWING TIES

PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S SCHEDULED VISIT TO PEKING LATER
THIS MONTH WILL NOT ONLY FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE GROWING
TIES BETWEEN CHINA AND LIBERIA BUT IS OBVIOUSLY DESIGNED
TO BRING ABOUT GREATER COOPERATION IN THE AGRICULTURAL
AND TECHNICAL FIELDS ON THIS COUNTRY'S ROAD TO SELF-
RELIANCE AND DEVELOPMENT.

CHINA IS NOTED FOR ITS SUCCESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN ITS
SELF-RELIANCE PROGRAMME--A GOAL WHICH LIBERIA HAS
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EMBARKED UPON, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE
AND WITH HER ASSISTANCE, THIS COUNTRY COULD REACH
HEIGHTS OF PRODUCTIVITY.

WHILE LIBERIA MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED ONE OF THE AREAS IN
AFRICA CURRENTLY CAUGHT UP IN THE MESH OF BIG POWER
SCRAMBLE, THIS COUNTRY HAS A GREAT ROLE TO PLAY IN

AFRICA'S FUTURE, THUS A TALKING POINT ON THE CHINA
AGENDA WILL VERY LIKELY BE THE CURRENT AFRICAN SITUATION
IN THE LIGHT OF THE SHABA INVASION.

CHINA, UNDOUBTEDLY, AGREES WITH PRESIDENT TOLBERT
THAT BIG POWERS SHOULD TAKE THEIR HANDS OFF AFRICA AND
STOP ATTEMPTING TO DESTABILIZE SITUATIONS ON THE
CONTINENT.

TODAY, CHINA IS EMERGING AS AN ADVOCATE IN PEACEFUL
REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES OF AFRICAN PEOPLES. SHE
PREFERS TO GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT
PURPOSES RATHER THAN ARMS FOR DESTABILIZATION. IT WOULD
DO AFRICANS WELL TO REACH OUT AND GRASP THIS HAND
WHICH WILL HELP US OUT OF THE QUAGMIRE OF UNDERDEVELOP-
MENT AND PROGRESS, THEN AFRICA SHOULD THINK TWICE IN
CHOOSING ITS FRIENDS TO FORWARD HER IN HER STRUGGLE
FOR REVOLUTIONARY GROWTH AND PROGRESS. PRESIDENT
TOLBERT'S VISIT TO CHINA WILL ENLIGHTEN HIM ON THE
PATH OF FRIENDSHIP WITH THE CHINESE AND BRING ABOUT
CLOSER HARMONY AND CO-OPERATION IN OUR FORWARD MARCH
TO PROGRESS. UNQUOTE.
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